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**PATENT
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF : Vild et al.
FOR : **MATERIAL SUBMERGENCE SYSTEM**
SERIAL NO. : 10/723,504
FILED : November 26, 2003
ART UNIT : 1725
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : MLCZ 2 00112

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609, Applicant submits the following Disclosure Statement concerning art of which the Applicant is aware. A copy of PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein or submitted herewith is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b) exists.

Under § 1.98(a)(3), no concise explanation of relevance is required for information that is in the English language.

4,286,985 – Van Linden et al.
4,560,449 – Sivilotti
5,439,563 – Sivilotti
5,855,757 – Sivilotti
5,935,394 – Sivilotti et al.
6,036,745 – Gilbert et al.
6,074,455 – van Linden et al.
6,217,823 – Vild et al.
6,337,008 – Christensen et al.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as **FIRST CLASS MAIL** in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,

on 08/17/04

By: _____

Georgina B. Sonntag
Georgina B. Sonntag

Under Rule 97(b)(3), this information disclosure statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits and accordingly no fee is necessary.

OG Notice August 5, 2003


The Office has waived the requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(i) that copies of cited U.S. patent documents be submitted in connection with all applications filed on or after June 30, 2003. As such, copies of the U.S. patent documents cited herein have not been included.

It is respectfully requested that the attached documents be considered and officially cited in examination of this application.

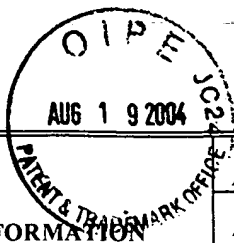
Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & McKEE, LLP

Date: August 17, 2004



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Subst. Form PTO-1449

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APPLICANT'S(S) INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant(s): Vild et al.

Filing Date: November 26, 2003

Group: 1725

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Initial*		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subcl.	Filing Date
	AA	4,286,985	01SE1981	Van Linden et al.			
	AB	4,560,449	24DE1985	Sivilotti			
	AC	5,439,563	08AU1995	Sivilotti			
	AD	5,855,757	05JA1999	Sivilotti			
	AE	5,935,394	10AU1999	Sivilotti et al.			
	AF	6,036,745	14MR2000	Gilbert et al.			
	AG	6,074,455	13JE2000	van Linden et al.			
	AH	6,217,823	17AP2001	Vild et al.			
	AI	6,337,008	08JA2002	Christensen et al.			
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Subcl.	Translation?
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						

OTHER ART

	AR	
	AS	
	AT	
	AU	

Examiner:

Date Considered:

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.